

external video recording device, wherein said control command is added to said electronic mail to control said electric appliance;

decrypting means for decrypting said certification information extracted by said first extracting means;

certifying means for certifying, by referencing the certification information decrypted by said decrypting means, whether a sender of said electronic mail is an authorized user;

storing means for storing, if said sender of said electronic mail has been certified by said certifying means to be an authorized user, said control command extracted by said second extracting means; and

control means for controlling said electric appliance based on said control command stored in said storing means, wherein said electric appliance is physically remote from said control means, wherein said control means has a timer reservation function, and wherein said control means reserves an operation time of said electric appliance.

5. (Three Times Amended) A reception method for controlling an electric appliance, comprising the steps of:

receiving an electronic mail transmitted through a network;

a first extracting step of extracting encrypted certification information inserted in said electronic mail received in said receiving step;

a second extracting step of extracting a control command added to said electronic mail to control said electric appliance;

decrypting said certification information extracted in said first extracting step;

certifying, by referencing the certification information decrypted in said decrypting step, whether a sender of said electronic mail is an authorized user;

storing, if said sender of said electronic mail has been certified in said certifying step to be an authorized user, said control command extracted in said second extracting step; and controlling said electric appliance based on said control command stored in said storing step, wherein said electric appliance is controlled remotely from a physical location of the second extracting step, and said step of controlling has a timer reservation function, and said step of controlling reserves an operation time of said electric appliance.

8. (Three Times Amended) A transmitting/reception system for controlling an electric appliance, comprising:

input means for generating at least a portion of an electronic mail;

encrypting means for encrypting predetermined information;

first addition means for adding, as certification information, the information encrypted by said encrypting means to said electronic mail inputted by said input means;

second addition means for adding a control command to said electronic mail for controlling the electric appliance; [and]

transmission means for transmitting through a network said electronic mail with said certification information added by said first addition means and said control command added by said second addition means;

reception means for receiving said transmitted electronic mail;

first extraction means for extracting said certification information from said electronic mail received by said reception means;

second extraction means for extracting said control command from said electronic mail received by said extraction means;

decrypting means for decrypting said certification information extracted by said first extraction means;

certifying means for certifying, by referencing said certification information decrypted by said decrypting means, whether a sender of said electronic mail is an authorized user;

storing means for storing, if said sender of said electronic mail has been certified by said certifying means to be an authorized user, said control command extracted by said second extraction means; and

control means for controlling said electric appliance based on said control command stored in said storing means, wherein said electric appliance is physically remote from said control means, wherein said control means has a timer reservation function, and wherein said control means reserves an operation time of said electric appliance.

9. (Three Times Amended) A transmitting/reception method for controlling an electric appliance, comprising the steps of:

inputting information to generate at least a portion of an electronic mail;

encrypting predetermined information;

a first adding step of adding, as certification information, information encrypted in said encrypting step to said electronic mail inputted in said inputting step;

a second adding step of adding to said electronic mail a control command for controlling the electric appliance ;

transmitting through a network said electronic mail with said certification information added in said first adding step and said control command added in said second adding step;

receiving said transmitted electronic mail;

a first extracting step of extracting said certification information from said received electronic mail;

a second extracting step of extracting said control command from said received electronic mail;

decrypting said certification information extracted in said first extracting step;

certifying, by referencing said certification information decrypted in said decrypting step, whether a sender of said electronic mail is an authorized user; and

storing, if said sender of said electronic mail has been certified in said certifying step to be an authorized user, said control command extracted in said second extracting step; and

controlling said electric appliance based on said control command stored in said storing step, wherein said electric appliance is controlled remotely from a physical location of the second extracting step, and said step of controlling has a timer reservation function, and said step of controlling reserves an operation time of said electric appliance

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11, and 12 are pending in this application. Claim 2 has been canceled by this amendment and Claim 10 was previously canceled, all claim cancellations being without prejudice or disclaimer. Independent Claims 1, 5, 8, and 9 have been amended to better clarify the invention using terms in common with Claims 1 and 6 U. S. Patent No. 6,374,406 and added extraction and decryption of encrypted information for storage of control commands from authorized users, all without the introduction of any new matter.

The outstanding Office Action includes an objection to Figure 1 and a rejection of Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being anticipated¹ by over Naughton et al (U.S. Patent

¹This is clearly the wrong term to use with a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 as “anticipated” is universally recognized as indicating a rejection 35 U.S.C. §102, not 35 U.S.C. §103. If, on the other hand, the rejection was actually intended to be based upon 35